

Educational Program Fees

Dane County Parks - Lussier Family Heritage Center

The following document contains guidance for setting fees for general, environmental, and outdoor education programs for the Lussier Family Heritage Center and Dane County Parks. Staff should maintain a goal to keep program costs as low as possible for programming, while still covering costs associated with LTE (limited term employment) employees and material costs. Discounts, scholarships, and waived fees should be granted to persons or organizations unable to pay the amount, but who wish to participate in the program. Education program fees should not be set to make a profit. When possible, a mix of free and paid educational programs should be available for public and private groups/ participants. Educational Program Fees should be presented and reviewed by the Dane County Parks Commission on an annual basis. Fees beyond the ranges listed below, will be presented and reviewed by the Dane County Parks Commission prior to use.

The Lussier Family Heritage Center may pilot programs in collaboration with outside entities. A special event permit will be created for these events and a minimum of 10% will be paid back to the Lussier Family Heritage Center to cover costs associated with the event.

Fee Categories

Field Trip: These programs may take place onsite (at the Heritage Center or a Dane County Park) or offsite (at the organization location). These programs typically are between 60-180 minutes depending on the topic, which will influence the price. K3-12th grade.

Public Youth Program: This is a general category that covers all additional programs including but not limited to: StoryTime, Lil' Explorers, Youth Art in the Park, Youth Yoga, Bike Safety, etc. that is open to all members of the public. Costs vary due to material, duration, and LTE costs. Ages may be from 3-18 years.

Presentation/ Seminar/ Class: This program type is typically conducted with a speaker (internal or external guest) who may or may not receive some type of compensation for their time. Due to this the cost for this program type may fluctuate greatly to cover the cost for the presenter along with staff (LTE time). 9th Grade – Adult.

Multi-Day Course: A program that spans multiple days or a series of events in which the same participants attend the majority of the activity dates. For example, a Junior Naturalist program may take place twice weekly for four weeks. Another example, a camping course may take place for one or two nights and run continuously. Pricing for this type of program may vary greatly due to the program duration variability (i.e. 2, 4, 6, and 8-week programs or overnight events). Programs will be age specific, but can be for any age.

Learn To...Program: This type of program is focused on teaching the basics of a recreation activity such as biking, hiking, camping, fishing, disc golf, etc. These programs require varying experts to assist which may require additional compensation and an increased fee. These program fees should be kept as low as possible for the public, as the goal is to teach a recreational activity to persons who may not have learned how to do this prior. All ages.

Learn To...Program with Overnight: This is the same type of program as the “Learn to...Program” but now the addition of an overnight may happen such as learn to camp, backpack, etc. These programs may have a higher fee due to the increased staff (LTE) time necessary to host the learning experience. All ages.

Wellness Program: This program type is a fitness and/ or well-being program with a focus on physical or mental wellbeing and may include activities such as yoga, meditation, Tai Chi, or nature bathing. This type of program may be conducted with a partner organization and/ or need a fee to cover costs associated with brining in a professional facilitator for this. All ages.

Guided Walk: Typically, guided walks should not have a fee. However, at times it may be necessary to cover the cost of a naturalist through Dane County Parks (LTE) or a parks friends group. There may be times that a guided walk is request as a private event (such as for a banquet or gathering), for these a small fee may be required to cover costs of additional work hours. All ages.

2021 Fee Scale

2021 Education Program Fee Scale		
Fee Range <i>Per Person</i>	Fee Category	Age Group
\$5 - 10	Field Trip	3K-12
Free - \$10	Public Youth Program	3-18 years
\$10 - 25	Presentation/ Seminar/ Class	9th Grade - Adult
\$25 - 100	Multi-Day Course	K-12
\$15 - 30	Learn To...Program	All Ages
\$25 - 75	Learn To...Program Overnight	All Ages
\$5 - 25	Wellness Program	All Ages
Free - \$10	Guided Walk	All Ages

**Please note, the above fees will cover program costs and are below the average cost of environmental and outdoor education programming in Southern Wisconsin compared across 14 public and private organizations.*